

Spotlight on Marlboro . . .

Marlboro County was named for John Churchill, first Duke of Marlborough (1650-1722). The county name was originally spelled Marlborough, but it was later shortened. The county was created in 1785 as a part of Cheraw's District. Welsh Baptists from Delaware settled in an area of the county known as Welsh Neck around 1737, and they were later joined by English and Scotch-Irish settlers. Cotton growing made this a wealthy part of the state prior to the Civil War. The town of Blenheim was also known for its mineral springs. General Sherman's troops passed through this county in 1865, briefly occupying the town of Bennettsville. Some famous Marlboro County natives are U.S. Congressman and diplomat Robert Blair Campbell (1791-1862), U.S. and Confederate Congressman John McQueen (1804-1867), and child advocate and Children's Defense Fund founder Marian Wright Edelman (b. 1939).

Bennettsville Workforce Center

460 Hwy 9 West, Cheraw Hwy, P O Drawer 798
Bennettsville, SC 29512
(843) 479-4081 / FAX: (843) 479-9811

Location & Climate

- Located in the northeastern area of the state
- Surrounded by Chesterfield, Darlington, Florence, and Dillon counties, with North Carolina to the north
- This region has an average temperature of 62.9 degrees with an annual average rainfall of 49.5 inches.

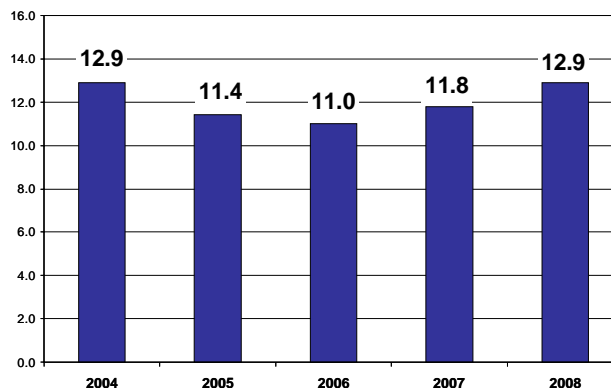
Population

- Was 28,980 in 2007
- Has exceeded estimated growth through 2030
- 2007 data was comprised of 42.8% White, 52.2% African-American, and 4.9% Other
- The Hispanic-Latino population has increased from 205 in 2000 to 300 in 2007, a 46.3% change.

Labor Force

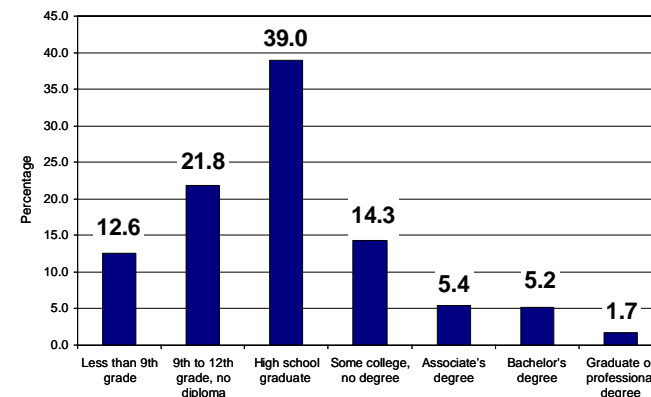
- Decreased from 11,860 in 2007 to 11,680 in 2008
- Employment dropped from 10,460 in 2007 to 10,170 in 2008.
- Unemployment rate rose from 11.8% in 2007 to 12.9% in 2008.

Unemployment Rates for Marlboro County
2004 - 2008



Educational Attainment

Marlboro County 2007



Per Capita Income

- County per capita income was \$20,380 for 2007.
- This was 66% of the state's per capita income of \$31,100.
- This was 53% of the national per capita income of \$38,620.

Unemployment Insurance Benefits

The Bennettsville Workforce Center, serving Marlboro and Chesterfield counties, paid \$7,362,237 in regular unemployment insurance benefits during 2008.



SC Employment Security Commission Labor Market Information

P O Box 995
Columbia, SC 29202
(803) 737-2660 / FAX: (803) 737-2838
(800) 205-9290 (outside the Columbia area)

<http://www.sces.org/lmi>